Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAR ES 02717 281420Z

51

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CU-02 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SCCT-01 SCS-03

SCA-01 SY-05 DHA-02 /072 W

----- 097531

O R 281325Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9068

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

CONFIDENTIAL DAR ES SALAAM 2717

E.O.11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PINS, CASC (SMUTS, BARBARA)(SMITH, KENNETH STEVEN)

(HUNTER, CARRIE JANE)

SUBJECT: STEVEN SMITH AIRPORT INCIDENT: TANGOV APOLOGIZES

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 2694

- 1. ON SATURDAY EVENING, 26 JULY, BERNARD MUGANDA, DIRECTOR, EUROPE-AMERICAS DIVISION, FONMIN, RUSHED OVER TO EXTEND SINCEREST APOLOGIES FOR AIRPORT INCIDENT EARLIER THAT DAY INVOLVING RELEASED STUDENT STEVEN SMITH.
- 2. MUGANDA TOLD ME HE HAD LEARNED THAT I HAD BEEN TRYING TO REACH HIM, BUT THAT HE WAS TIED UP WITH PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S VISIT AT TIME. HE ASKED ME TO RE-STATE WHAT HAD HAPPENED AT AIRPORT. I DID SO AND HE AGREED OUR ACCOUNT JIBED WITH THAT OF FONMIN OFFICIAL WHO WAS PRESENT. MUGANDA SAID HE HAD INITIATED PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION, AND FACTS INDICATED THAT DEBRIEFING AT AIRPORT WAS UNDERTAKEN WITHOUT QTE HIGHER APPROVAL UNQTE. CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 DAR ES 02717 281420Z

3. LATER SAME EVENING MUGANDA SOUGHT ME OUT BRINGING ALONG LAWRENCE GAMA, DIRECTOR, TANZANIA INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY SERVICE (TISS), WHO ALSO OFFERED APOLOGIES OVER INCIDENT AND ATTRIBUTED IT TO QTE STUPID BURUTI MISTAKE UNQTE. BURUTI IS A TISS TYPE WHO HAD BEEN ASSIGNED TO KIDNAP CASE AND WHO HAD GENERALLY BEEN HELPFUL IN PAST. NEITHER THE TANZANIANS NOR OURSELVES COULD QUITE UNDERSTAND WHAT HAD GOTTEN INTO BURUTI THAT AFTERNOON.

4. GAMA SAID THAT MUGANDA HAD TOLD HIM THAT I WAS CONTEMPLATING SENDING OF OFFICIAL PROTEST NOTE (WHICH I WAS CONSIDERING) AND SAID THAT HE RECOGNIZED THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE ERROR BUT WANTED ME TO KNOW THAT BURUTI WOULD BE DISCIPLINED AND INCIDENT WOULD NOT BE REPEATED IN FUTURE. ON BASIS OF VERBAL APOLOGIES TO OUR VERBAL PROTESTS I INTEND LET MATTER DROP. CARTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: KIDNAPPING, TERRORISTS, PRISONERS RELEASE, AIRPORTS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 28 JUL 1975 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchantr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a **Executive Order:** X1

Errors: N/A Film Number: D750259-0872 From: DAR ES SALAAM Handling Restrictions: n/a

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Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 23 APR 2003

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <16 OCT 2003 by buchantr>

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JÚL 2006

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Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: STEVEN SMITH AIRPORT INCIDENT: TANGOV APOLOGIZES TAGS: PINS, CASC, (SMUTS, BARBARA), (SMITH, KENNETH STEVEN), (HUNTER, JANE) To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006